

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Bart Joseph Gerard PAUWELS

Attorney Docket Q62997

Appln. No.: not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: A SWITCH AND A SWITCHING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, insert the heading **--Background of the Invention--**.

Page 3, after line 28 (according to the line numbering), insert the heading **--Summary of the Invention--**.

Page 8, before line 1, insert the heading **--Brief Description of the Drawings--**.

after line 13, insert the heading **--Detailed Description of the Invention--**.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of asynchronous and bit-synchronous protocols is a bit.

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4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of slot-synchronous protocols is a slot.
10. (Amended) A switch according to claim 7, in which the reassembly indicators include the queue's priority classification.
12. (Amended) A switch according to claim 6, wherein the processor is configured to store predetermined details of interrupted traffic transmissions and their respective queues in one of the memory devices and to retrieve the details for use in resuming the interrupted transmission once the interrupting transmission is completed.
13. (Amended) A switch according to claim 6, further comprising a number of outputs, wherein the processor is configured to transmit traffic to an appropriate output in dependence on the traffic's destination address.
14. (Amended) A switch according to claim 6, in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of asynchronous and bit-synchronous protocols is a bit.
15. (Amended) A switch according to claim 6, in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of slot-synchronous protocols is a slot.
21. (Amended) A switch according to claim 17, in which each interleaved portion of traffic includes a priority indicator, wherein a start indicator comprises a rise in the level of the priority indicator.
22. (Amended) A switch according to claim 17, in which the processor (20) is configured to operate as state machine.
23. (Amended) A telecommunications network comprising a switch as claimed of claim 6.

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24. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a number of computer executable instructions for executing the steps of claim 1.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

After the heading delete the title in its entirety.

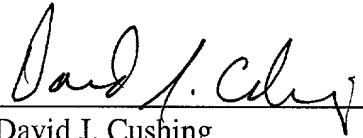
After the abstract, delete “[Fig. 3]”

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REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1[or 2], in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of asynchronous and bit-synchronous protocols is a bit.
4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1[or 2], in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of slot-synchronous protocols is a slot.
10. (Amended) A switch according to claim 7,[8 or 9,] in which the reassembly indicators include the queue's priority classification.
12. (Amended) A switch according to [any of claims 6 to 11]claim 6, wherein the processor is configured to store predetermined details of interrupted traffic transmissions and their respective queues in one of the memory devices and to retrieve the details for use in resuming the interrupted transmission once the interrupting transmission is completed.
13. (Amended) A switch according to [any of claims 6 to 12]claim 6, further comprising a number of outputs, wherein the processor is configured to transmit traffic to an appropriate output in dependence on the traffic's destination address.
14. (Amended) A switch according to [any of claims 6 to 13]claim 6, in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of asynchronous and bit-synchronous protocols is a bit.
16. (Amended) A switch according to [any of claims 6 to 13]claim 6, in which the minimum transmittable element for traffic of slot-synchronous protocols is a slot.

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21. (Amended) A switch according to claim 17[or 20], in which each interleaved portion of traffic includes a priority indicator, wherein a start indicator comprises a rise in the level of the priority indicator.

22. (Amended) A switch according to [any of claims 17 to 21]claim 17, in which the processor (20) is configured to operate as state machine.

23. (Amended) A telecommunications network comprising a switch as claimed of [claims 6 to 22]claim 6.

24. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a number of computer executable instructions for executing the steps of [any of claims 1 to 5]claim 1.